

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
DECEMBER 18, 1998

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, December 18, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Yvonne Brown, Sara Fox, Joanna Heidel, Billy Hewes, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, Patricia Puckett, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, Danny Seal, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

Guests in attendance: Pete Walley, representing IHL; Michael Gallagher, representing Mississippi EdNet; Martin Mangold, representing ETV; and Dr. Starkey Morgan, representing the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:05 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

The invocation was given by Patricia Puckett.

Approval of Minutes of November 19 and 20, 1998, Board Meetings

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth and a second by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 19 and 20, 1998, meetings.

Review of Agenda

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Ray reported on the initial meeting of the Mississippi.Future.Net (M.F.N.) Work Group held on November 30, 1998. The work group will develop recommendations on issues related to Mississippi's technology needs. The Work Group's next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 1999.

Dr. Evelyn Webb gave the Board an update on the KAPLAN Learning Systems proposal. The program would allow community and junior colleges to participate with KAPLAN in an on-line training program designed to prepare students or participants for the CPA examination. The community and junior colleges that choose to participate would receive 20% of the fee charged for the training program.

Dr. Ray reported on the establishment of an External ABE/GED Team of practitioners to work with the Internal SBCJC ABE/GED Team in designing strategies to help increase participation statewide.

Dr. Ray also reported on the Two-Year Four-Year Partnership Conference held on December 9 and 10, 1998, at the Holiday Inn, in Gulfport Mississippi. Several SBCJC staff members and SBCJC Board member, Billy Hewes, participated in the conference.

Dr. Ray announced that SBCJC staff will be participating in a strategic planning session at the NASA facility on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, December 20 and 21, 1998.

Dr. Ray reported on the announcement by Mr. Joe Childers, President of Northeast Mississippi Community College, of his retirement, effective June 30, 1999. Also, Dr. Ray reported on the status of a court case involving Northeast Mississippi Community College.

In response to a survey of the presidents to determine the need and interest for training on how to cope and handle violence on campuses, a Sexual Assault Workshop for colleges was held on December 8, 1998. This workshop is the first of several different sessions that will be sponsored by the SBCJC.

Dr. Ray invited the Board to view the SBCJC web page on the Internet. The address for the web page is www.sbcjc.cc.ms.us.

Dr. Ray distributed a copy of an article "Should Workforce Training Be Consolidated?" that appeared in the November 30 - December 6, 1998, edition of the Mississippi Business Journal (Exhibit A).

REPORTS/ACTION

MACJC Report

Dr. Starkey Morgan reported on the following items discussed at the November 24, 1998, meeting of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

The Association observed a moment of silent prayer for the family of Mrs. Dawn Allen. Mrs. Allen, a graduate of Holmes Community College, was murdered in Mobile, Alabama on November 21, 1998, and for the family of Ms. Mary Nell Scott, a Hinds Community College instructor killed in a recent automobile accident.

Dr. Ned Lovell addressed the presidents with regard to the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program sponsored by Mississippi State University. The Association voted unanimously to support the 6th annual Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program.

Ms. Jane Hulon distributed a listing of proposed academic program degrees for the MidSouth Center for Rural Community Colleges.

After a discussion of the Federal Law on Energy Conservation that was passed in July of 1998, the Association voted unanimously to request an official Attorney General's opinion to ascertain if community and junior colleges would be required to comply with Senate Bill 3313.

Dr. Olon Ray updated the Association on the initial meeting of the Mississippi.Future.Net Workgroup.

Dr. Ray introduced the Legislative Budget Office's recommendations for the upcoming legislative session. Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented highlights of the LBO recommendations for the SBCJC Support and Administration budgets.

Dr. Ray shared with the presidents draft legislation developed by staff for the Special Economic Development Taskforce with regard to the consolidation of workforce efforts for the State of Mississippi. Mr. Pete Walley gave an update on the Workforce Investment Act. Dr. Morgan reported that the Association voted in a special meeting held on December 15, 1998, to support the Special Economic Development Taskforce recommendations on moving workforce training and regular programs from the State Department of Education to the SBCJC.

Dr. Ray gave a report on a visit to North Harris/Montgomery County/University Center in Houston, Texas on October 29 and 30, 1998. The purpose of the visit was to examine alternatives to deliver higher education opportunities in the Gulf Coast area.

Dr. Ray distributed updated figures on tuition free community colleges based on a survey from the colleges on the number of recent high school graduates.

Dr. Ray reported that Dr. Bobby Garvin and he met with the Local Affairs Committee of the House at the request of Representative Jimmy Green. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposal for training city and county law enforcement personnel.

Dr. Evelyn Webb and Dr. Larry Day presented a preliminary report of enrollment figures for the Fall 1998 audit.

Dr. Ray also announced the upcoming Third Annual Creating Futures Through Technology Conference that will be held in Jackson on February 9 and 10, 1999.

Dr. Evelyn Webb gave a report on the Education Alliance's Teacher Induction Program.

Dr. Ray distributed a copy of an editorial that presented a comparison between Alabama and Mississippi community colleges that appeared in the Mobile Press Register on October 15, 1998.

Dr. Clyde Muse reported that the Regional Legislative Meetings across the state were very effective and very well attended.

Dr. Muse also discussed with the Association, the concept of transferring all workforce training efforts to the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.

Dr. Eddie Smith reported that plans for the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team Recognition Program are well under way.

Dr. Starkey Morgan reported on a meeting of the MACJC Funding/Formula Implications Committee and distributed a sample worksheet detailing possible appropriations funding based upon credit hours versus FY 1997 postsecondary state salary funding.

Dr. David Cole reported that he and Dr. Richard Thompson, State Superintendent of Education, recently met with a key legislative chairman with regard to the possible transfer of vocational funding from the State Department of Education (SDE) to the SBCJC. Dr. Cole distributed a copy of a memorandum he prepared as a result of the meeting requesting selected community and junior college individuals to serve on a Vocational Program Study Committee to conduct an objective study on issues and consequences (positive or negative) if state-level administration of post-secondary vocational/technical/industrial services programs were transferred from the SDE to the SBCJC. The Committee hopes to develop a concise and objective paper which will set forth the issues involved listing both the anticipated consequences related to defined issues. The report would take no position, only provide accurate information on the subject.

The Association voted to adopt recommendations outlined in a report entitled "The Role of Mississippi's Community Colleges and the Workforce Investment Act of 1998". Dr. Muse led a discussion about the correct steps to follow in furthering the recommendations developed by the Workforce Investment Act Committee.

The Association discussed Rural Health Corps issues.

Dr. Randall Bradberry congratulated Jones County Junior College on winning the State Football Championship. Jones was invited to, and won, the Golden Isle Bowl in Brunswick, Georgia on December 5, 1998. Also, Northwest Mississippi Community College's football team was invited to in the Mineral Water Bowl, in Middle College, Georgia on December 5, 1998.

The Association discussed a proposed dues increase for membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

EdNet Report

Yvonne Brown introduced Michael Gallagher, Project Director for Mississippi EdNet and Martin Mangold, Mississippi Authority for Educational Television. Mr. Gallagher brought the Board up-to-date on EdNet's activities. EdNet will begin broadcasting original programming on January 4, 2002, with 3 channels (a total of 36 hours per day filled with academic programming for pre-school through upper division university courses), five days per week. Program policies were presented to the EdNet Board on Monday, December 14, 1998, and approved. Procedures were also identified and attached to allow broad operating powers, with EdNet staff being

empowered with decision making authority and Mr. Gallagher serving as adjudicator. The next level of authority will be a programming advisory committee that will meet quarterly. Local Origination Site (LOS) application packets are being evaluated and sites are being identified.

Mr. Gallagher discussed the procedure for making changes to FCC licenses authorizing transmitter receive sites with the Board. He requested that the SBCJC approve a change in the transmitter receive sites for the Ackerman and Hattiesburg sites. Martin Mangold also discussed the rationale and further explained the need for the changes with the Board. The application to change a FCC transmitter receive site requires that all five licensees sign-off approving the change. After a discussion, the Board agreed that any changes or alterations to the FCC licenses should be brought to the SBCJC for review and approval. John Junkin requested that EdNet provide information showing the original proposed cell locations and coverage areas versus the present locations.

Upon a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Dr. Ray to sign documents authorizing site location changes upon review and approval by Assistant Attorney General Frankie White and John Junkin.

Finance Report

Upon a motion by Sara Fox, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the January 1999, disbursements from General Fund 2298 in the amount of \$21,558,982 (Exhibit B).

Upon a motion by Sara Fox, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the December 31, 1998, Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Funds 4080 and 4110 in the amount of \$2,084,940.16 (Exhibit C).

Upon a motion by Sara Fox and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the SBCJC Indirect Cost Proposal for FY 2000 (Exhibit D).

Mrs. Fox also presented the following reports for the Board members' review:

Bimonthly Capital Improvements Report (Exhibit E).
Financial Statements for Funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit F).

Activities Report

Dr. Randall Bradberry updated the Board by presenting information regarding athletic scholarships awarded by the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) colleges (Exhibit G).

Workforce Education Report

George Walker asked that SBCJC staff prepare and distribute to Board members and the State Workforce Development Council, a listing of legislation pertinent to the SBCJC and SWDC programs, and that the information be updated throughout the upcoming legislative session.

Mr. Walker reported on a meeting with State Economist, Dr. Phil Pepper, concerning the "Beyond the Millennium: Workforce Development in Mississippi" report.

Mr. Walker also reported on the SWDC's position supporting the establishment of Advanced Technology Centers at the community and junior colleges.

Mr. Walker reported on a recommendation from a committee chaired by Jimmy Heidel that was presented to the Joint Legislative Budget Office to consolidate and transfer the administration, funding, and training functions of workforce related training programs administered by the State Department of Education and Department of Economic and Community Development, to the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges by the end of 1999.

Mr. Walker also reported on attending a Workforce Investment Act Summit convened by Governor Fordice, on December 15, 1998.

Mr. Walker reported on a meeting that he attended at Mississippi State University with Dr. Ned Lovell and others pertaining to the proposed MidSouth Center for Rural Community Colleges. MSU has developed a list of courses that have been submitted to the Institutions for Higher Learning for funding through the Center. Mr. Walker raised a concern that one of the courses might conflict with the Industrial Training Degree Program currently being offered through the University of Southern Mississippi and four public community and junior colleges.

Mr. Walker stated that he had received a request from Andy Kanengiser of The Clarion Ledger, to prepare an article highlighting the role of the SWDC. Tracy Heggins assisted Mr. Walker with the preparation of the article that will be forwarded to Mr. Kanengiser.

Mr. Walker reported on the SWDC's Committee on Support for Public Education's meeting. Hazel Terry addressed the Committee with regard to a pilot program in Kemper County to work with K-12 schools and the community and junior colleges to help students be better prepared as they leave Mississippi high schools.

Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration

Danny Seal updated the Board on the activities of the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration and discussed the actions taken at the last Commission meeting held on December 17, 1998 (Exhibit H). Danny Seal welcomed William Seal who will be serving as SBCJC liaison for the Commission. The next meeting of the Commission is set for February 18, 1998.

Preliminary Enrollment Report

Dr. Larry Day presented a summary of the Fall 1998 enrollment figures (Exhibit I).

Legislative Report

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher gave an overview of pre-filed legislation that would affect the SBCJC.

As the session progresses, a listing of legislation will be prepared and tracked. Copies of the legislative report will be mailed to each Board member.

Dr. Stonecypher announced that the poinsettias on the table were furnished for the Board members by the Horticulture Program at Jones County Junior College.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by John Junkin, seconded by Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request for reimbursement of travel expenses as follows:

George Walker attended a Workforce Investment Act Summit on December 15, and a Northwest Mississippi Community College District Workforce Council Meeting on December 8, 1998.

Billy Hewes attended the Two-Year Four-Year Partnership Meeting in Gulfport on December 9 and 10, 1998.

Hazel Terry attended a meeting of the SWDC's Committee for Support of Public Education on December 9, 1998.

Other Business

Dr. Olon Ray stated that Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr., President of Alcorn State University had expressed an interest in hosting a future Board meeting.

Deborah Gilbert stated Assistant Attorney General Frankie White had suggested that the Board look into holding a future meeting at the Phi Theta Kappa International Headquarters Building. After a discussion the Board decided to hold the February meeting in Jackson at the SBCJC office but to check into taking a tour of the Phi Theta Kappa Building after the meeting.

Upon a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Joanna Heidel, the Board voted unanimously to reverse the order of business for the Thursday evening Board meeting, for the next three months, and hold the business session at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The Board members then joined SBCJC staff in a covered dish dinner to celebrate the holiday season.


George Walker, Chairman


Olon E. Ray
Executive Director